

BIOS

Nadje Al-Ali is Professor of Gender Studies at the Centre for Gender Studies, SOAS, University of London. She has published widely on women and gender in the Middle East as well as transnational migration and diaspora mobilization. In addition to her work on Iraq and Egypt, she is currently working on a research project about the Turkish-Kurdish conflict.

Brett Bailey is a playwright, designer, play director, festival curator and the artistic director of Third World Bunfight. His acclaimed iconoclastic dramas, which interrogate the dynamics of the post-colonial world, include *Big Dada*, *Ipi Zombi?*, *iMumbo Jumbo*, *Orfeus*, *medEia* and *macbEth*. His performance installations include *Blood Diamonds: Terminal* and *Exhibit B*. His works have played across Europe, Australia and Africa, and have won several awards, including a gold medal for design at the Prague Quadrennial (2007).

Eric Baudelaire is a visual artist and filmmaker. His recent films include *Letters to Max* (2014), *The Ugly One* (2013) and *The Anabasis of May and Fusako Shigenobu, Masao Adachi, and 27 Years Without Images* (2011). His research-based practice also unfolds as installations incorporating photography, printmaking, performance, publications and screenings.

Tania El Khoury is a live artist working in London and Beirut. She creates interactive installations and performances in which the audience is an active collaborator. Tania's work has been shown in five continents in spaces ranging from museums to cable cars. Tania is co-founder of Dictaphone Group, an urban research and site-specific performance collective in Beirut.

Amin Husain is a Palestinian American filmmaker, visual artist, lawyer and activist based in New York and Ramallah. Amin is a co-founder and member of MTL Collective that blends research, aesthetics, and activism in its practice, as well as *Tidal: Occupy Theory* magazine, Global Ultra Luxury Faction, and Direct Action Front for Palestine. Working with Nitasha Dhillon as MTL Collective, they are directing and producing *The Coming Intifada*, a feature film on Palestine.

Khaled Jarrar was born in Jenin in 1976 and he lives and works in Ramallah. Jarrar completed his education at the Polytechnic University in Hebron and the International Academy of Art Palestine. With highly symbolic photographs, videos, and performative interventions focused on the issues of borders and migrations, multidisciplinary artist Khaled Jarrar explores modern power struggles and their sociocultural impact on ordinary citizens. The everyday objects appearing in Jarrar's reflective work, whether by their shape or nature, are juxtaposed with the severity of the issues he examines, thus giving the political content of his art greater significance while underscoring the autobiographical nature of his chosen themes.

Lamia Joreige is a visual artist and filmmaker who lives and work in Beirut. She uses archival documents and fictitious elements to reflect on the relationship between individual stories and collective history. Lamia Joreige is co-founder and board member of Beirut Art Center, a non-profit space dedicated to contemporary art in Lebanon, which she co-directed from January 2009 until March 2014.

Lara Khaldi is an independent curator based in Jerusalem, Palestine. She recently completed the de Appel Curatorial Programme, Amsterdam. She is currently teaching at the International Academy of Art Palestine, Ramallah among other projects. Khaldi frequently collaborates with Yazan Khalili on lecture performances and exhibitions such as *Love Letter to Mars*, OCA, Oslo (2014).

Yazan Khalili lives and works in and out of Palestine. He is an architect, artist, and cultural producer. His artworks and texts has been shown and published in different exhibitions and publications.

Sophie Nield teaches at Royal Holloway, University of London. She works on questions of space, theatricality and representation in political life and the law, and on the performance of 'borders' of various kinds. Recent work has focused on the figure of the refugee, the theatricality of protest and the political viability of the riot.

Sandra Noeth is a curator, researcher, educator and writer based in Berlin. Since 2015, she is a fellow of the Research Group Loose Couplings at the University of Hamburg; 2009-2014, she was Head of Dramaturgy and Research at Tanzquartier Wien. Her work focuses on the ethics and politics of the body.

Marwan Rechmaoui lives and works in Beirut. Deriving inspiration from the geography and complex multi-cultural history of Beirut, Rechmaoui's work often reflects themes of urbanization and contemporary social and behavioral demographics. His multimedia installations transform the city, with its familiarities and local anecdotes, into a multidisciplinary space for dialogue between architecture, urban planning, political economics, sociology, and history.

Andrew Ross is a social activist and Professor of Social and Cultural Analysis at NYU. He is the author of many books, including *Creditocracy and the Case for Debt Refusal*, *Bird On Fire*, *Nice Work if You Can Get It*, and *Fast Boat to China*, and editor of *The Gulf: High Culture/Hard Labor*.

Nato Thompson is an American curator at the New York-based public arts institution Creative Time. Since 2007, Thompson has organized such major Creative Time projects as The Creative Time Summit (2009–2015), Kara Walker's *A Subtlety* (2014), *Funk, God, Jazz, and Medicine: Black Radical Brooklyn* (2014), *Living as Form* (2011). His book *Seeing Power: Art and Activism in the 21st Century* was published in 2015.

Christine Tohmé is the founding director of Ashkal Alwan, a non-profit organization in Beirut that supports contemporary art through numerous initiatives such as Home

Works Forum, Video Works, and Home Workspace Program. Tohme is the recipient of a Prince Claus Award and the CCS Bard Audrey Irmis Award. In 2017, Tohme will be curating the Sharjah Biennial 13.

Jalal Toufic is a thinker and a mortal to death. He was born in 1962 in Beirut or Baghdad and died before dying in 1989 in Evanston, Illinois. His books are available for download at www.jalaltoufic.com. He is the Director of the School of Visual Arts at the Lebanese Academy of Fine Arts (ALBA).

Dr Katia Arfara is an Athens-based researcher, writer, teacher and curator. She holds an MA in theatre studies and a PhD in art history. Her essays appear in international journals and critical anthologies. Her interests focus on post-documentary theatre, public art, new media practices and installation. She lectures extensively in France and Greece. She is the author of the book *Théâtralités contemporaines* (2011). Dr Arfara is the Onassis Cultural Centre theater and dance artistic director.

Dr Massimiliano Mollona is an anthropologist based at Goldsmiths College, London. His interests lie in film and visual anthropology, the anthropology of work and organizations and political anthropology especially of class and social movements. Mollona has conducted extensive fieldworks in the UK and Brazil where he has also directed various experimental film projects. Dr. Mollona is the programme director of the Athens Biennale (2015-17) and one of the artistic directors of the Bergen Assembly (2017).